# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:371
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2017
MRP of Packaged Water
Charitra Shri Ram;Singh Shri Abhishek

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has sought explanation from companies selling packaged mineral water at different Maximum Retail Prices (MRPs) at different places and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether some companies are doing exclusive packaging for selling packaged drinking water bottles at places such as malls, cinema halls and parks and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
(c) the rules and guidelines regarding such exclusive packaging by companies to sell their products at prices more than MRP;
(d) the manner in which the Government proposes to ensure that sale of packaged water bottles at malls, cinema halls and other such places conforms to MRP; and
(e) whether the Government is contemplating to take action against such companies and if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

*****

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*371 FOR 28.03.2017 REGARDING MRP OF PACKAGED WATER.

---

(a) : The Central Government issued advisory on 24.10.2016 to the States informing them the of the Nation Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) order dated 01.02.2016 in Revision Petition No. 2038 of 2015 wherein it was ruled that "there cannot be two maximum retail prices except in accordance with law" and requested them to take necessary action to protect the interests of consumers. The State Governments are empowered under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and the provisions of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 to issue notices and seek explanation from the companies for violation of the provisions of the Act or the rules therein. The Central Government issued follow-up advisories on the subject on 02.12.2016 and 22.03.2017.

(b) : States have reported that some companies are doing exclusive packages for selling packaged drinking water bottles at places vis., Malls, Cinema Halls and Parks. As per the latest information received from the States, the total numbers of cases booked for violation of MRP, which inter-alia include cases against manufacturers/sellers of packaged drinking water, are 6903 in 2015-16 and 6766 in 2016-17. No separate figures are maintained for cases exclusively booked against manufacturers/ sellers of packaged drinking water.

(c) : Section 36 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 provide for penalty provisions in case of violations related inter-alia to MRP.

(d) & (e) : As per provisions of the Legal Metrology Act and Rules thereof, States take actions against violation of provisions of the Act and the Packaged Commodities Rules. Number of cases booked has already been indicated as above.

*****